

**CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE GUIDE**  
**BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

**SWIMMING POOLS (IN-GROUND OR ABOVE-GROUND),**  
**SPAS AND HOT TUBS (CONTAINS WATER OVER 24 INCHES DEEP)**

- Please read all of the following information.
- The following is a check list. You must have a "checkmark" in all the sections listed below prior to submitting your application.

- \_\_\_\_\_ "Affidavit of Exemption" (See attached form) If you are hiring a contractor to construct your pool, and they have workers' compensation, have the contractor or their insurance carrier provide us with a "Certificate of Insurance" showing proof of such. If the homeowner or a contractor without workers' compensation is constructing the pool, the attached form must be completed and notarized.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A site plan showing the proposed pool, hot tub or spa location including the distances in feet, to the front, sides and rear property lines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Three (3) sets of complete construction documents that show in detail code compliance for all of the work proposed to include but not limited to the following information;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Safety barrier – show type for your specific pool installation, (fence, walls, etc.) including height. (Barrier requirements attached).
- \_\_\_\_\_ If installing deck at pool – take submittal requirements for deck also.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Electrical service (pump, filter, receptacles, etc.) show location and type of wiring method. (Electrical requirements attached).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Completed building permit application.

MDIA will review plans submitted to determine code compliance. If the minimum submittal requirements are not met, we will ask the applicant to supply additional information. If the minimum requirements are met, the plans will be marked "approved". A building permit will be issued and the applicant will be notified of the inspection fees and when they can pick-up the permit at the Municipal Building. All fees shall be paid prior to the issuance of the permit. Then use the inspection procedures provided to have all of the required inspections performed.

## **INSPECTION PROCEDURES SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS AND HOT TUBS**

- Building permit must be posted on the site of the work and clearly visible from the road until completion of the project.
- Your approved plans must be available at all times for inspections. These are the plans that were submitted with your application and were marked "Approved" by the Building Code Official.
- The permit applicant or authorized agent is responsible for scheduling all inspections.
- **DO NOT schedule an inspection if the work is not ready!!!!**
- When scheduling an inspection, you must supply your permit number to the inspector.

**PLEASE GIVE THREE (3) WORKING DAYS ADVANCE NOTICE**

**FOOTING INSPECTION WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY**

**MIDDLE DEPARTMENT INSPECTION AGENCY, INC.**

### **ALL POOLS:**

1. Electrical Inspection – A. Bonding all metal parts (rebar if concrete, ladder, etc) associated with pool prior to placing concrete. B. Underground to be inspected prior to cover.  
**Inspector, Brian Rearick** **Phone, 1-800-682-6342**
2. If Installing Deck Around Or Next To Pool – Use inspection procedure for decks also.  
**Inspector, Brian Rearick** **Phone, 1-800-682-6342**
3. Safety Barrier Inspection – Done prior to filling pool with water.  
**Inspector, Brian Rearick** **Phone, 1-800-682-6342**
4. Final Electrical  
**Inspector, Brian Rearick** **Phone, 1-800-682-6342**
5. Final Inspection – When job is completely finished, prior to occupancy permit and after electrical inspection.  
**Inspector, Brian Rearick** **Phone, 1-800-682-6342**

**BEFORE DIGGING CALL 811 – SEE ATTACHED BROCHURE**

Safe digging is  
no accident!

Know what's  
below.

Dial 8-1-1  
before you dig.



#### TEMPORARY MARKING GUIDELINES

WHITE	Proposed Excavation
PINK	Temporary Survey Markings
RED	Electric Power Lines, Cables, Conduit and Lighting Cables
YELLOW	Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum or Gaseous Materials, Hazardous Materials
ORANGE	Communication, Alarm or Signal Lines, Cables or Conduit and Traffic Loops
BLUE	Potable Water
PURPLE	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and Slurry Lines
GREEN	Sewers and Drain Lines

The following information is needed when you call PA One Call System.

#### YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER

#### YOUR MAILING ADDRESS

COUNTY - The name of the county where the work will take place  
MUNICIPALITY - City, Township or Borough where the work will take place

THE ADDRESS WHERE THE WORK WILL TAKE PLACE  
THE NEAREST INTERSECTING STREET TO THE WORK SITE  
THE NAME OF A SECOND INTERSECTION NEAR THE WORK SITE

IS THE PROPOSED EXCAVATION AREA (WORK SITE)

MARKED IN WHITE - Yes or No

OTHER INFORMATION THAT WOULD HELP THE LOCATOR FIND THE SITE - Clarifying information to specify the exact location of the dig

THE TYPE OF WORK BEING DONE

WHETHER THE WORK WILL TAKE PLACE IN: Street, Sidewalk, Public or Private Property

THE APPROXIMATE DEPTH YOU ARE DIGGING

THE EXTENT OF THE EXCAVATION - The approximate size of the opening, the length and width or diameter

THE METHOD OF EXCAVATION - How will the earth be moved

WHO IS THE WORK BEING DONE FOR

PERSON TO CONTACT IF THE UTILITIES HAVE QUESTIONS

THE CONTACT PERSON'S PHONE NUMBER - The phone number with area code for daytime contact

THE BEST TIME TO CALL

FAX NUMBER AND/OR EMAIL ADDRESS - The responses from the facility owners will be sent to you

SCHEDULED EXCAVATION DATE AND START TIME - not less than 3 business days or more than 10 business days

DURATION OF A JOB - How long will the job take

ANY ADDITIONAL REMARKS YOU MAY HAVE

You will be given a 10 digit serial number as confirmation of your call and our system will send you the responses from the utilities on the morning of your scheduled excavation date via fax or email

Know what's below.  
Dial 8-1-1 before you dig.



[www.pa811.org](http://www.pa811.org)

## What do we do?

We are the "Call before you dig!" company for all of Pennsylvania. If you plan to disturb the earth with powered equipment, you are required by Pennsylvania law to notify the underground utility companies of your intent to do so. Notification occurs by calling 8-1-1 or 1-800-242-1776, 24 hours of the day, every day of the year. Notification can also be done on our website at [www.paonecall.org](http://www.paonecall.org).

We will then notify the utility companies nearby of your intent to dig. The utility companies are responsible to mark where their underground lines are located with colored flags, paint or chalk.

### Please Note:

- PA One Call does not mark utility lines.
- In some cases, the utility company may not mark the service lines you own.
- If you need your sewer drain cleared be sure to check [www.paonecall.org/crossbore](http://www.paonecall.org/crossbore) for Call Before You Clear information or call 811 for more information.

## Why should you call?

Safe digging is no accident! If you are installing a fence or deck, or digging for a mailbox post, patio or other excavation project, it is important to Know What's Below. Dial 8-1-1 or 1-800-242-1776 before you dig. The utility companies do not want an accident, either. The best way to learn where underground utility lines are located is to call before you dig.

For more information, visit [www.pa811.org](http://www.pa811.org)



## Homeowner Quick Tips

- One easy phone call to 8-1-1 three to ten business days before digging begins helps keep your neighborhood safe.
- Call on Monday or Tuesday if you plan to dig on Saturday or Sunday.
- The utility companies will mark where their underground lines are located with colored paint, flags or chalk.
- Do not remove the flags if you see them in your yard.
- Our service is no cost to homeowners.
- Did you hire someone to install your fence, deck or new patio? Ask to see the **PA One Call** serial number before allowing them to dig on your property.

## The Excavator's Responsibility

- Dial 8-1-1 or 1-800-242-1776.
- Do not allow anyone to excavate on your property without calling.
- Always look for the markings on the ground before your dig date.
- If you do not see markings, do not allow anyone to dig. Wait for the lines to be marked by the utility.
- Whoever places the call will receive an email or fax with a list of facility owners who have marked or have not marked. Pay attention to this message.
- Respect the markings by not removing flags or disturbing the actual markings.
- Exercise care around the marked lines by hand digging.
- When the project is complete, the excavator should remove the flags or marks from the ground or pavement.
- Report mishaps by dialing 8-1-1. Report emergencies by dialing 9-1-1.

2. Swimming pools with a powered *safety cover* that complies with ASTM F 1346.

**305.2 Outdoor swimming pools and spas.** Outdoor pools and spas and indoor swimming pools shall be surrounded by a barrier that complies with Sections 305.2.1 through 305.7.

**305.2.1 Barrier height and clearances.** Barrier heights and clearances shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. The top of the barrier shall be not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above grade where measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool or spa. Such height shall exist around the entire perimeter of the barrier and for a distance of 3 feet (914 mm) measured horizontally from the outside of the required barrier.
2. The vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall not exceed 2 inches (51 mm) for grade surfaces that are not solid, such as grass or gravel, where measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool or spa.
3. The vertical clearance between a surface below the barrier to a solid surface, such as concrete, and the bottom of the required barrier shall not exceed 4 inches (102 mm) where measured on the side of the required barrier that faces away from the pool or spa.
4. Where the top of the pool or spa structure is above grade, the barrier shall be installed on grade or shall be mounted on top of the pool or spa structure. Where the barrier is mounted on the top of the pool or spa, the vertical clearance between the top of the pool or spa and the bottom of the barrier shall not exceed 4 inches (102 mm).

**305.2.2 Openings.** Openings in the barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere.

**305.2.3 Solid barrier surfaces.** Solid barriers that do not have openings shall not contain indentations or protrusions that form handholds and footholds, except for normal construction tolerances and tooled masonry joints.

**305.2.4 Mesh fence as a barrier.** Mesh fences, other than chain link fences in accordance with Section 305.2.7, shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall comply with the following:

1. The bottom of the mesh fence shall be not more than 1 inch (25 mm) above the deck or installed surface or grade.
2. The maximum vertical clearance from the bottom of the mesh fence and the solid surface shall not permit the fence to be lifted more than 4 inches (102 mm) from grade or decking.
3. The fence shall be designed and constructed so that it does not allow passage of a 4-inch (102 mm) sphere under any mesh panel. The maximum vertical clearance from the bottom of the mesh fence and the solid surface shall not be more than 4 inches (102 mm) from grade or decking.

## SECTION 305 BARRIER REQUIREMENTS

**305.1 General.** The provisions of this section shall apply to the design of barriers for pools and spas. These design controls are intended to provide protection against the potential drowning and near drowning by restricting access to such pools or spas. These requirements provide an integrated level of protection against potential drowning through the use of physical barriers and warning devices.

### Exceptions:

1. Spas and hot tubs with a lockable *safety cover* that complies with ASTM F 1346.

4. An attachment device shall attach each barrier section at a height not lower than 45 inches (1143 mm) above grade. Common attachment devices include, but are not limited to, devices that provide the security equal to or greater than that of a hook-and-eye-type latch incorporating a spring-actuated retaining lever such as a safety gate hook.
5. Where a hinged gate is used with a mesh fence, the gate shall comply with Section 305.3.
6. Patio deck sleeves such as vertical post receptacles that are placed inside the patio surface shall be of a nonconductive material.
7. Mesh fences shall not be installed on top of onground *residential* pools.

**305.2.5 Closely spaced horizontal members.** Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is less than 45 inches (1143 mm), the horizontal members shall be located on the pool or spa side of the fence. Spacing between vertical members shall not exceed  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches (44 mm) in width. Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, spacing within the cutouts shall not exceed  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches (44 mm) in width.

**305.2.6 Widely spaced horizontal members.** Where the barrier is composed of horizontal and vertical members and the distance between the tops of the horizontal members is 45 inches (1143 mm) or more, spacing between vertical members shall not exceed 4 inches (102 mm). Where there are decorative cutouts within vertical members, the interior width of the cutouts shall not exceed  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches (44 mm).

**305.2.7 Chain link dimensions.** The maximum opening formed by a chain link fence shall be not more than  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches (44 mm). Where the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top and bottom which reduce the openings, such openings shall be not more than  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches (44 mm).

**305.2.8 Diagonal members.** Where the barrier is composed of diagonal members, the maximum opening formed by the diagonal members shall be not more than  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches (44 mm). The angle of diagonal members shall be not greater than 45 degrees (0.79 rad) from vertical.

**305.2.9 Clear zone.** There shall be a clear zone of not less than 36 inches (914 mm) between the exterior of the barrier and any permanent structures or equipment such as pumps, filters and heaters that can be used to climb the barrier.

**305.2.10 Poolside barrier setbacks.** The pool or spa side of the required barrier shall be not less than 20 inches (508 mm) from the water's edge.

**305.3 Gates.** Access gates shall comply with the requirements of Sections 305.3.1 through 305.3.3 and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. Pedestrian access gates shall open outward away from the pool or spa, shall be self-closing and shall have a self-latching device.

**305.3.1 Utility or service gates.** Gates not intended for pedestrian use, such as utility or service gates, shall remain locked when not in use.

**305.3.2 Double or multiple gates.** Double gates or multiple gates shall have at least one leaf secured in place and the adjacent leaf shall be secured with a self-latching device. The gate and barrier shall not have openings larger than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (12.7 mm) within 18 inches (457 mm) of the latch release mechanism. The self-latching device shall comply with the requirements of Section 305.3.3.

**305.3.3 Latches.** Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches (1372 mm) from grade, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool or spa side of the gate not less than 3 inches (76 mm) below the top of the gate, and the gate and barrier shall not have openings greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (12.7 mm) within 18 inches (457 mm) of the release mechanism.

**305.4 Structure wall as a barrier.** Where a wall of a dwelling or structure serves as part of the barrier and where doors or windows provide direct access to the pool or spa through that wall, one of the following shall be required:

1. Operable windows having a sill height of less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the indoor finished floor and doors shall have an alarm that produces an audible warning when the window, door or their screens are opened. The alarm shall be *listed* and *labeled* as a water hazard entrance alarm in accordance with UL 2017. In dwellings or structures not required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located 54 inches (1372 mm) or more above the finished floor. In dwellings or structures required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches (1372 mm) and not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the finished floor.
2. A *safety cover* that is *listed* and *labeled* in accordance with ASTM F 1346 is installed for the pools and spas.
3. An *approved* means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, is provided. Such means of protection shall provide a degree of protection that is not less than the protection afforded by Item 1 or 2.

**305.5 Onground residential pool structure as a barrier.** An onground *residential* pool wall structure or a barrier mounted on top of an onground *residential* pool wall structure shall serve as a barrier where all of the following conditions are present:

1. Where only the pool wall serves as the barrier, the bottom of the wall is on grade, the top of the wall is not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above grade for the entire perimeter of the pool, the wall complies with the requirements of Section 305.2 and the pool manufacturer allows the wall to serve as a barrier.

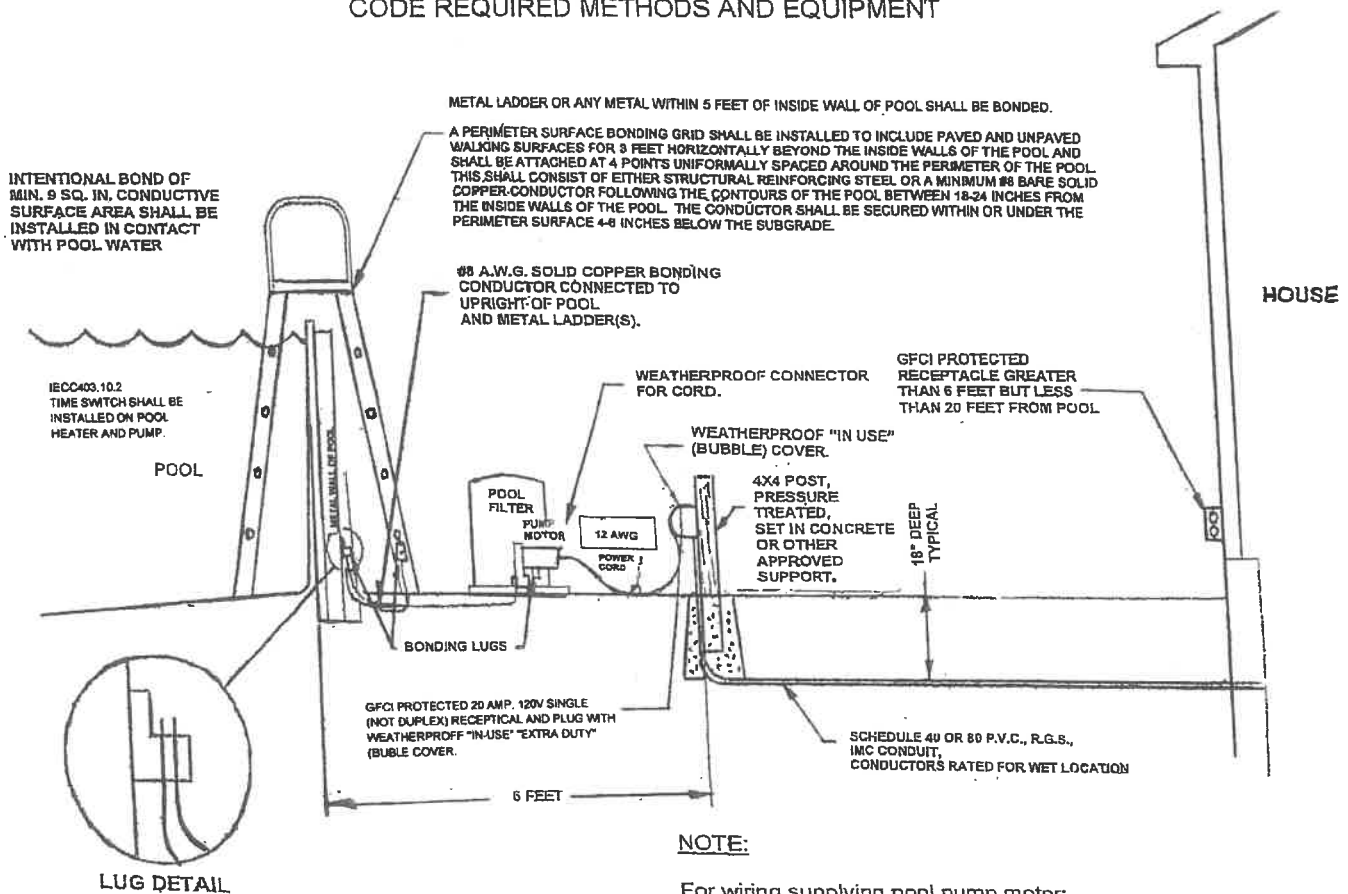
## GENERAL COMPLIANCE

2. Where a barrier is mounted on top of the pool wall, the top of the barrier is not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above grade for the entire perimeter of the pool, and the wall and the barrier on top of the wall comply with the requirements of Section 305.2.
3. Ladders or steps used as means of access to the pool are capable of being secured, locked or removed to prevent access except where the ladder or steps are surrounded by a barrier that meets the requirements of Section 305.
4. Openings created by the securing, locking or removal of ladders and steps do not allow the passage of a 4-inch (102 mm) diameter sphere.
5. Barriers that are mounted on top of onground *residential* pool walls are installed in accordance with the pool manufacturer's instructions.

**305.6 Natural barriers.** In the case where the pool or spa area abuts the edge of a lake or other natural body of water, public access is not permitted or allowed along the shoreline, and required barriers extend to and beyond the water's edge not less than 18 inches (457 mm), a barrier is not required between the natural body of water shoreline and the pool or spa.

**305.7 Natural topography.** Natural topography that prevents direct access to the pool or spa area shall include but not be limited to mountains and natural rock formations. A natural barrier approved by the governing body shall be acceptable provided that the degree of protection is not less than the protection afforded by the requirements of Sections 305.2 through 305.5.

# TYPICAL WIRING DIAGRAM FOR AN ABOVE-GROUND POOL SHOWING CODE REQUIRED METHODS AND EQUIPMENT





**THIS FORM REQUIRES A NOTARY SEAL**

**AFFIDAVIT OF EXEMPTION**

The undersigned affirm that he/she is not required to provide workers compensation insurance under the provisions of Pennsylvania's Workers' Compensation Law for one of the following reasons, as indicated:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Property owner performing own work. If property owner does hire contractor to perform any work pursuant to building permit, contractor must provide proof of workers' compensation insurance to the municipality. Homeowner assumes liability for contractor compliance with this requirement.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contractor has no employees. Contractor prohibited by law from employing any individual to perform work pursuant to this building permit unless contractor provides proof of insurance to the municipality.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Religious exemption under the Workers' Compensation Law. All employees of contractor are exempt from workers' compensation insurance (attach copies of religious exemption letter for all employees).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

County of \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality of \_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed, sworn to and acknowledged  
before me by the above \_\_\_\_\_  
this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_  
20 \_\_\_\_\_.

**SEAL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public